

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: § Examiner: N/A
Hideji Tajima §
Serial No.: § Art Unit: N/A
national phase of PCT/JP03/00316 §
Filed: herewith § Priority Dates:
For: § 16 January 2003 (PCT)
SYSTEM FOR HOUSING/PROCESSING § 17 January 2002 (JP)
CARRIER AND METHOD FOR
HOUSING/PROCESSING CARRIER §

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Atten: DO/EO/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I. Introduction

Prior to the initial examination of the referenced application, please amend the application as shown in the accompanying sections and reconsider the referenced application in light of the amendments. Applicant hereby submits a substitute specification in accordance with 37 CFR 1.125 incorporating all the referenced amendments.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawing(s) begin on page 9 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 10 on this paper.